



Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2007

File No. 551

Senate Bill No. 1391

Senate, April 23, 2007

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through SEN. DAILY of the 33rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING FEE INCREASES FOR CERTAIN VITAL RECORDS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 7-34a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2007*):

4 (a) Town clerks shall receive, for recording any document, ten
5 dollars for the first page and five dollars for each subsequent page or
6 fractional part thereof, a page being not more than eight and one-half
7 by fourteen inches. Town clerks shall receive, for recording the
8 information contained in a certificate of registration for the practice of
9 any of the healing arts, five dollars. Town clerks shall receive, for
10 recording documents conforming to, or substantially similar to, section
11 47-36c, which are clearly entitled "statutory form" in the heading of
12 such documents, as follows: For the first page of a warranty deed, a
13 quitclaim deed, a mortgage deed, or an assignment of mortgage, ten
14 dollars; for each additional page of such documents, five dollars; and

15 for each marginal notation of an assignment of mortgage, subsequent
16 to the first two assignments, one dollar. Town clerks shall receive, for
17 recording any document with respect to which certain data must be
18 submitted by each town clerk to the Secretary of the Office of Policy
19 and Management in accordance with section 10-261b, the sum of two
20 dollars in addition to the recording fee. Any person who offers any
21 written document for recording in the office of any town clerk, which
22 document fails to have legibly typed, printed or stamped directly
23 beneath the signatures the names of the persons who executed such
24 document, the names of any witnesses thereto and the name of the
25 officer before whom the same was acknowledged, shall pay one dollar
26 in addition to the regular fee. Town clerks shall receive, for recording
27 any deed, except a mortgage deed, conveying title to real estate, which
28 deed does not contain the current mailing address of the grantee, the
29 sum of five dollars in addition to the regular recording fee. Town
30 clerks shall receive, for filing any document, five dollars; for receiving
31 and keeping a survey or map, legally filed in the town clerk's office,
32 five dollars; and for indexing such survey or map, in accordance with
33 section 7-32, five dollars, except with respect to indexing any such
34 survey or map pertaining to a subdivision of land as defined in section
35 8-18, in which event town clerks shall receive fifteen dollars for each
36 such indexing. Town clerks shall receive, for a copy of any document
37 either recorded or filed in their offices, one dollar for each page or
38 fractional part thereof, as the case may be; for certifying any copy of
39 the same, [one dollar] two dollars; for making a copy of any survey or
40 map, the actual cost thereof; and for certifying such copy of a survey or
41 map, [one dollar] two dollars. Town clerks shall receive, for recording
42 the commission and oath of a notary public, ten dollars; and for
43 certifying under seal to the official character of a notary, two dollars.

44 Sec. 2. Section 7-74 of the general statutes is repealed and the
45 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

46 (a) The fee for a certification of birth registration, short form, shall
47 be five dollars. [and the] The fee for a certified copy of a certificate of
48 birth, long form, shall be [five] ten dollars, except that the fee for such

49 certifications and copies when issued by the department shall be
50 fifteen dollars.

51 (b) The fee for a certified copy of a certificate of marriage or death
52 shall be [five] ten dollars. Such fees shall not be required of the
53 department.

54 Sec. 3. Section 26-29 of the general statutes is repealed and the
55 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

56 No fee shall be charged for any sport fishing license issued under
57 this chapter to any blind person, and such license shall be a lifetime
58 license not subject to the expiration provisions of section 26-35. Proof
59 of such blindness shall be furnished, in the case of a veteran, by the
60 United States Veterans' Administration and, in the case of any other
61 person, by the State Board of Education of the Blind. For the purpose
62 of this section, a person shall be blind only if his central visual acuity
63 does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with correcting lenses, or if his
64 visual acuity is greater than 20/200 but is accompanied by a limitation
65 in the fields of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual field
66 subtends an angle no greater than twenty degrees.

67 Sec. 4. Section 26-29a of the general statutes is repealed and the
68 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

69 No fee shall be charged for any sport fishing license issued under
70 this chapter to any [mentally retarded] person with mental retardation,
71 and such license shall be a lifetime license not subject to the expiration
72 provisions of section 26-35. Proof of mental retardation shall consist of
73 a certificate to that effect issued by any person licensed to practice
74 medicine and surgery in this state.

75 Sec. 5. Section 26-29b of the general statutes is repealed and the
76 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

77 No fee shall be charged for any hunting, sport fishing or trapping
78 license issued under this chapter to any physically disabled person,
79 and such license shall be a lifetime license not subject to the expiration

80 provisions of section 26-35. For the purposes of this section, a
 81 "physically disabled person" is any person whose disability consists of
 82 the loss of one or more limbs or the permanent loss of the use of one or
 83 more limbs. A physically disabled person shall submit to the
 84 commissioner a certification, signed by a licensed physician, of such
 85 disability. No fee shall be charged for any hunting or sport fishing
 86 license issued under this chapter to any physically disabled person
 87 who is not a resident of this state if such person is a resident of a state
 88 in which a physically disabled person from Connecticut will not be
 89 required to pay a fee for a hunting or sport fishing license, and such
 90 license shall be a lifetime license not subject to the expiration
 91 provisions of section 26-35.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2007	7-34a(a)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2007	7-74
Sec. 3	July 1, 2007	26-29
Sec. 4	July 1, 2007	26-29a
Sec. 5	July 1, 2007	26-29b

FIN *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	10,000	10,000
Department of Environmental Protection	Conservati - None	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund; Conservati=Conservation Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
All Municipalities	Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The fee increases outlined in the bill will result in a revenue gain to all municipalities in the state. Large cities such as Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury could potentially have a revenue gain in excess of \$100,000. The remainder of the municipalities would recognize minimal revenue gains commensurate with population size. The state will experience a revenue gain of approximately \$10,000 annually in response to increasing the fees collected by the State Registrar of Vital Records for deaths and marriages by \$5.00 per certified record issued.

Allowing a blind person, a person with mental retardation, and a permanently physically disabled person to submit the required certification of his disability only once, instead of annually to obtain a free sport fishing, hunting, or trapping license will very minimally reduce the administrative duties of the Department of Environmental Protection and is not anticipated to have a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The revenue gains outlined above will continue into the future.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1391*****AN ACT CONCERNING FEE INCREASES FOR CERTAIN VITAL RECORDS.*****SUMMARY:**

The bill increases town clerks' fees (1) from \$5 to \$10 for each certified copy of a marriage, death, or long-form birth certificate and (2) from \$1 to \$2 for certifying copies of maps, surveys, and other documents filed with their offices. It also doubles the fee for a certified copy of a marriage or death certificate from the Department of Public Health's registrar of vital statistics from \$5 to \$10. The bill does not change the \$5 fee for a certified copy of a birth registration, also known as the short form. A birth registration contains only a person's name, sex, date and place of birth, and date of birth registration. A birth certificate also includes such information as parents' names, mother's maiden name, hospital location, and home addresses.

Lastly, the bill allows blind people and people with mental retardation to get lifetime sport fishing licenses and people with physical disabilities to get lifetime hunting, sport fishing, or trapping licenses, instead of requiring them to renew their licenses every year and provide proof of disability each time. By law, the licenses are free. Free licenses for people with physical disabilities are available to nonresidents from states with reciprocal laws.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

COMMITTEE ACTION

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 50 Nay 2 (04/05/2007)